

survived by a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Frank "Frankie" Williams, Jr. a beloved husband, father, grandfather, uncle, and son.

**CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT
GENERAL DAVID E. QUANTOCK
ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 37
YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE
UNITED STATES ARMY**

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lieutenant General David E. Quantock, who is retiring after 37 years of exemplary active federal service in the United States Army on December 31, 2017.

LTG Quantock is a resident of New York and a 1980 graduate of Norwich University, with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. He received Master's degrees in Public Administration from Troy State University, Computer Science from the Naval Postgraduate School, and Strategy from the United States Army War College. He was commissioned through ROTC and entered the U.S. Army as a Military Police Officer. LTG Quantock has served in multiple campaigns, including Operation Island Breeze in Grenada, Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti, and Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq.

LTG Quantock culminated his distinguished career as The Inspector General, Office of the Secretary of the Army where he upheld the office's longstanding legacy as a fair and impartial organization. In all of his diverse assignments, LTG Quantock's dedication, integrity, and leadership had an immeasurable impact on the Army and our nation's allies.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to thank LTG Quantock for his 37 years of faithful service, and wish him and his wife Melissa all the best in the years ahead.

**HONORING MR. MARTIN TRUEX,
JR.**

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Martin Truex, Jr., of Ocean County as the 32nd driver in the NASCAR Cup Series history to be crowned Champion. Since his Cup series rookie season in 2004, Martin has racked up 15 wins, 67 top 5's and 160 top ten finishes with 6,519 laps led throughout his hard fought and resilient career.

Beyond his great success on the race track, Martin is committed to giving back to his community. In 2007, he and his longtime girlfriend, Sherry Pollex started the Martin Truex, Jr. Foundation to support children with pediatric cancer. When not driving for Colorado based Furniture Row Racing team, Martin and Sherry devote much of their time together to furthering cancer research and awareness. The Martin Truex, Jr., Foundation has committed over one million dollars in aid to help grow the

emergency room at the Southern Ocean Medical Center in Manahawkin, New Jersey. Additionally, their efforts contributed to the grand opening of a new Pediatric Care Center at Southern Ocean Medical Center, in August of 2013.

Martin was raised in Mayetta, NJ, a very small and not so populated area inside of Stafford Township in southern Ocean County. In 1998, he graduated from Southern Regional High School, while racing for the Modified Division at Wall Stadium in Wall Township, always striving to accomplish his childhood dream, which was to become a NASCAR Cup Series Champion.

Mr. Speaker, the people of New Jersey's Third Congressional District are tremendously proud to have Mr. Martin Truex, Jr., as an involved member of their community. It is my honor to recognize his outstanding accomplishment of being crowned the 2017 Champion in the NASCAR Cup Series and his continued commitment to giving back to his community, before the United States House of Representatives.

**THANKING THEODORE R.
BECHTOL, JR. FOR HIS DEDICATED
SERVICE TO THE HOUSE**

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to one of the truly outstanding individuals who works at the U.S. Capitol, Mr. Theodore R. Bechtol, Jr.

Better known to many of us as the Superintendent of the U.S. Capitol Grounds, Ted is responsible for preserving and maintaining more than 290 acres of the historic landscape and infrastructure across the U.S. Capitol campus.

Prior to being promoted to his current position in 2007, Ted served as the Deputy Superintendent for U.S. Capitol Grounds. As part of Ted's responsibilities, he ensures the routine and periodic landscape maintenance, comprehensive tree care, and upkeep of the supporting infrastructure, vehicles, and equipment are completed. Additionally, snow removal, trash collection, and support for major events, such as the annual December Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, are key responsibilities for supporting our U.S. Capitol campus. In total, Ted has taken part in 13 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree events.

Throughout Ted's years at the U.S. Capitol, he worked hard to bring recognition to the historical significance of the grounds and helped to produce cultural landscape reports. His depth of knowledge about Frederick Law Olmsted, the American landscape architect who designed the U.S. Capitol Grounds, has changed how each section of the grounds are cared for, with a focus on historical horticulture.

Ted has also consulted on historical horticulture work at many institutions throughout the east coast.

Under his leadership, the U.S. Capitol Grounds have received designation as an accredited arboretum, a notable industry standard.

On Friday, January 5, 2018, Ted Bechtol will retire from his position as Superintendent

of the U.S. Capitol Grounds for the Architect of the Capitol.

In retirement, he will be spending more time with his granddaughter, working on home improvement projects, and enjoy hiking and beach trips. He will continue to explore American history trails—he and his wife recently hiked Gettysburg and Civil War trails.

Although we are sad to see someone with Ted's accomplishments leave the service of the institution, I offer him my sincere best wishes in his retirement.

**IN RECOGNITION OF HELEN
MACKES FOR THIRTY YEARS OF
PUBLIC SERVICE**

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Helen Mackes, who will celebrate her retirement in January from her position as tax collector for Kunkletown, Pennsylvania. Helen has been a life-long resident of Kunkletown, Eldred Township, Pennsylvania.

Helen Mackes was a realtor, an elected tax collector, and the go-to person for information and assistance in her community for close to thirty years, and she was the recording secretary for a local political association for three decades as well. In addition to her service in government, Helen has always been very involved in her community in civic organizations, helping to preserve local history and important historic sites. As head of the Eldred Township Historical Society, she led the effort to secure a grant from the Commonwealth Finance Authority to renovate and restore the Kunkletown post office on Kunkletown Road.

It is an honor to recognize Helen Mackes for all the years of service she has given to the people of Kunkletown. I am grateful for both what she has done and what she has meant to this unique community. I wish her all of the best as she looks forward to an enjoyable and fulfilling retirement.

**HONORING FIREFIGHTER AND
PARAMEDIC JAMES McDONALD
FOR HIS COURAGE AND HEROIC
ACTIONS**

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the heroic actions of firefighter and paramedic James McDonald. His courage, calm demeanor, quick reflexes, and solution-based approach saved the life of Riverside County Sheriff's Deputy David Solis.

On the afternoon of May 25th, 2017, Mr. McDonald and the rest of the members of Fire Station 79 were dispatched across town to assist Deputy Solis who had been shot multiple times during a foot pursuit in the City of Coachella.

Mr. McDonald reacted immediately and medically assisted Deputy Solis. He assessed the injuries, directed the medical support, and requested an air ambulance to transport Deputy Solis to the nearest regional trauma center.

As an emergency room physician, I am aware that when an individual is severely injured by gunshots, every second is vital to save his or her life. Mr. McDonald remained calmed and focused throughout the operation, and his leadership was essential in saving Deputy Solis's life. His courage and agility of mind is commendable.

Throughout his two years working with the Riverside County Fire Department, Mr. McDonald has demonstrated a strong commitment to public safety, earning the respect and admiration of his colleagues. Before becoming a firefighter, Mr. McDonald served our community as a paramedic since 2000. Mr. McDonald was recently recognized by the City of Coachella for his outstanding performance assisting Deputy Solis.

On behalf of California's 36th Congressional District, I am grateful for Firefighter and Paramedic James McDonald and commend his valuable contributions and arduous work strengthening our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM ERIC HERR, COLONEL, USAF (RETIRED)

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to use this time to recognize my constituent and friend, Mr. William Eric Herr for over 40 years of federal service beginning as a Reserve Officer Training Corps cadet in 1977 and culminating on January 14, 2018 with his retirement from federal civil service.

Mr. Herr received his engineering degree from the University of Colorado and was commissioned in 1981. He excelled as an Air Force pilot with most of his flight time in the F-15 Eagle, single-seat, air superiority fighter. Mr. Herr reached the pinnacle of his tactical training by graduating from the United States Air Force Fighter Weapons Instructor Course; as in his other flying training courses, he received top academic honors and was recognized as a Distinguished Graduate. He served 26 years in the Air Force including command, combat time over Iraq, duty on The Joint Staff, and senior positions on The Air Staff and the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Staff.

Today, Mr. Herr serves as the Low Observable/Counter Low Observable (LO/CLO) Systems Program Director in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics. He is responsible for managing the Department of Defense process for focusing LO/CLO technology development and reviewing requests for the release of LO/CLO technologies to U.S. allies and foreign partners.

Mr. Herr has been an active and involved citizen of Stafford County, Virginia. He served five years on the county's Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission including multiple terms as chairman and vice-chairman. An active member of the Stafford County Branch, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Mr. Herr currently serves on their executive board and as their political outreach chair. He has been a frequent speaker at meetings of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors and has been engaged at all levels of his local government and across the First Congressional District.

Mr. Herr and his wife Lisa will be moving to Texas after his retirement where he will continue to support our Nation's defense in a leadership role in the private sector. Both he and Lisa will enjoy being closer to family but will never give up their ties to the Old Dominion.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Mr. Herr's service to Stafford County, to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to the United States of America, and wish him and his wife the best in their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 18, 2017 I missed the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "NO" on Motion to Fix the Convening Times, and "YES" on H.R. 4375, STEM Research and Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 687.

HONORING DEPUTY LOPEZ ON BEING NAMED OFFICER OF THE YEAR FOR HER ALTRUISM AND HEROISM

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize an outstanding member of my Congressional district, Riverside County Sheriff's Deputy Alicia Lopez. Because of her extraordinary altruism, she was recently named Officer of the Year by the Palm Desert Police Department. Her story is an inspiration and today, I want to recognize her exceptional dedication of service and sacrifice.

Deputy Lopez and Community Service Officer Angelina Castleberry became close friends when they were both working at the Palm Desert Police Department. In 2014, Ms. Castleberry gave birth to beautiful twins. Unfortunately, one of them was born with a kidney deficiency. For three and a half years, little Matthew has been subject to multiple dialysis treatments, 14 surgeries, and weekly visits to the Loma Linda University Kidney Center.

Throughout the procedures, doctors advised Ms. Castleberry that Matthew may not survive for too long without a kidney transplant. When Deputy Lopez learned about Matthew's troubles, she decided to participate in a blood drive to see if she could be a match. In March 2017, the results indicated that she was in-

deed a match. Without any hesitation, Deputy Lopez decided to donate her kidney to save the life of little Matthew.

When Deputy Lopez enthusiastically shared the great news with Ms. Castleberry, she was overcome with tears of joy. On July 31, 2017, Deputy Lopez donated her left kidney to little Matthew, and the transplant surgery was successful. Her selfless generosity saved Matthew's life, who is now recovering well with his new kidney.

Deputy Lopez has dedicated her life to serving the residents of the Coachella Valley. Her valuable contributions and arduous work strengthening our community are inspiring. As exemplified in this story, she goes above and beyond the call of duty.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of California's 36th Congressional District, I truly commend Deputy Lopez for her heroism and compassionate sacrifice. Her willingness to help little Matthew is an inspiration to us all. Her years of service and contributions to our community are an example of excellence and dedication that all should seek to emulate.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for voting on Monday, December 18. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted:

Nay on Roll Call No. 685 (On Motion to Fix the Convening Time);

Aye on Roll Call No. 686 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 4375, STEM Research and Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act, as amended); and

Aye on Roll Call Vote No. 687 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3979, Keep America's Refugees Operational Act).

IN RECOGNITION OF BETH CHAPPELL FOR HER SERVICE AS DETROIT ECONOMIC CLUB PRESIDENT AND CEO

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Beth Chappell for her distinguished leadership as the Detroit Economic Club's President and CEO as she leaves to begin her next chapter. She has been an effective leader and advocate for Michigan's businesses and entrepreneurs.

Born and raised in Michigan, Mrs. Chappell attended Michigan State University's Broad College of Business where she received her bachelor's degree in Marketing before entering the workforce. She spent 16 years at AT&T Corporation, where she served as Vice President of Global Services and cultivated relationships with a worldwide clientele. Mrs. Chappell also served as Executive Vice President of Compuware Corporation and led the Chappell Group before being named President and CEO of the Detroit Economic Club (DEC).